

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR
THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

NOTICE

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§2071(b), 2077 and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 83, vesting this Court with the authority to promulgate Local Civil Rules not inconsistent with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and applicable statutes, the judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, on May 20, 2002, approved for publication and solicitation of comment, Rule 5.1.3 of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure, *Modification or Redaction of Personal Identifiers* the *Procedural Order on Electronic Case Filing*.

It now appearing that comments were received in response to the publication of notice and solicitation of comment, and that the judges of the court reviewed and considered said comments, an Order of the Court was entered on July 8, 2002, applying Rule 5.1.3 of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, *Excluded Personal Identifiers*, to all civil cases filed in this district, whether filed in the traditional paper format or electronically under the court's Electronic Case Filing system. The rule, which will be effective July 8, 2002, reads as follows:

Rule 5.1.3. *Modification or Redaction of Personal Identifiers* -- As documents in civil cases may be made available for personal inspection in the office of the clerk of court at the United States Courthouse, or, if filed electronically, may be made available on the court's Electronic Case Filing system, such personal identifiers as Social Security numbers, dates of birth, financial account numbers and names of minor children should be modified or partially redacted in all documents filed either in traditional paper form or electronically.

Local Civil Rule 5.1.3 is prompted by the inclusion of a similar provision in the court's proposed *Procedural Order on Electronic Case Filing*, at Section 11(b), *Public Access*, cautioning litigants that "documents in civil cases should be made available electronically to the same extent that they are available for personal inspection in the office of the clerk of court at the U.S. Courthouse." Thus, having this provision apply to all civil cases, whether filed traditionally or electronically, will avoid the need for litigants to file documents under two separate standards of privacy protection.

Those wishing to obtain copies of Local Rule 5.1.3. *Modification or Redaction of Personal Identifiers*, may do so by accessing the District Court's website at <http://www.paed.uscourts.gov>. Copies may also be obtained by writing to Michael E. Kunz, Clerk of Court, United States Courthouse, 601 Market St., Room 2609, Philadelphia, PA, 19106, by obtaining them in person at the Clerk's Office, or by submitting a faxed request to the Clerk's Office at 215-597-6390.

FOR THE COURT:

JAMES T. GILES,
Chief Judge